

State of California
Office of Emergency Services
Fire and Rescue Branch

OPERATIONS BULLETIN # 1

***Subject:* Closest Resources Concept - Requesting Mutual Aid From Adjoining Operational Areas or Regions.**

HISTORY:

On October 11, 2007, the OES Fire and Rescue Services Advisory Committee/ FIREScope Board of Directors voted to authorize the following changes to the California Fire and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan as part of a pilot project.

PURPOSE:

To provide guidance regarding closest resources concept to Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinators and the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinators when requesting mutual aid from adjoining operational areas or regions when appropriate.

GUIDANCE:

Effective immediately the OES Fire and Rescue Operational Areas and OES Fire and Rescue Regions are authorized to directly order/fill initial attack/ immediate need engine requests with up to 5 strike teams or task forces from one adjacent OES Operational Area/ Region based on the closest resource concept.

The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator:

Evaluates request for assistance from local agency; determines if the most timely assistance is from one adjacent operational area and if so, request assistance from that Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator, not to exceed five strike teams or task forces. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall immediately notify the OES Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator and the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall immediately notify the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator of this action to assure the necessary resource tracking, notifications and coordination matters are appropriately addressed. When resources are needed from more than one adjacent area, either for timely response or when the need is beyond operational area capability, the request must be made to the region.

The Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator:

Evaluates requests for assistance from Area; determines the region resources from that region which can provide the most timely assistance, and initiates appropriate response thereof. Determines if the most timely and closest assistance is from an adjacent region and if so, requests assistance from that Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator not to exceed five strike teams or task forces. The Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall immediately notify the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator of this action. When resources are needed from more than one adjacent region, either for timely response or when the need is beyond region capability, the request must be made to the State.